

INFORMATION OFFICE
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PALESTINE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT
December 5, 1969

Karameh Battle Revived



Fateh Rockets Haifa Tanks

HAIFA — Fateh bazooka rockets hit fuel storage tanks in east Haifa Nov. 21, sending flames and smoke leaping over Haifa Bay. A military spokesman for the Palestinian Armed Struggle Command said.

The explosions caused by the direct bazooka rocket hits shook the port city at 8:40 p.m., local. Flames and additional explosions continued until the following day.

It was the fifth major Fateh operation in Haifa this year and the third within a month. It also came only 24 hours after Zionist authorities announced they had smashed a Palestinian "sabotage ring responsible for recent blasts in Haifa."

Oil installations in the port city of Haifa have so far been the target of four major Fateh attacks June 24, August 15, Nov.

14 and Nov. 21. On Oct. 22-23 five Fateh bomb blasts in 24 hours rocked residential quarters in Haifa as a warning against continuation of Zionist policy to blow up the houses of Palestinian Arab civilians. The Israeli authorities admitted 22 casualties in the Oct. 22-23 explosions.

Unable again to conceal the Nov. 21 Fateh attack on Haifa oil installations, Israel Radio reported that two tanks were hit directly and firemen were trying to put out the blaze while army units pressed a hunt in the

area for "suspects."

Israeli police officials said a nightwatchman sighted and fired on a car leaving the scene of the fire, but the car escaped undamaged.

Fateh bazooka rockets ripped the Haifa fuel tanks only 24 hours after Israel announced in Haifa she had arrested 31 Palestinian Arabs in police raids culminating in the rounding up of 24 men in Acre. A Haifa police spokesman claimed that those arrested in Acre were "responsible for recent blasts in Haifa."

In an atmosphere reminiscent of al-Karameh battle, Lebanese civilians and artillery units joined Fateh and other Palestinian commandos in successfully thwarting an Israeli helicopter borne attack on South Lebanon Dec. 3.

Licking their wounds, the enemy troops, estimated at 400, withdrew while dropping smoke bombs to cover their heavy losses. They officially confessed only six casualties, including the death of one of the commanding officers of the helicopter-borne raid at the Ar-koub area, on the slopes of snow-capped Mount Hermon.

A spokesman for the Palestinian Armed Struggle Command said commando casualties were nine dead (six from Sa'eqa and three from Fateh) and 13 injured (eight from Fateh and five from Sa'eqa). The spokesman said several Lebanese civilians, including a woman were injured.

The spokesman said the enemy paved the way for its helicopter-borne attack with intermittent heavy artillery fire against the Arkoub area starting 5:30 a.m., Dec. 3, and until 8:15 a.m., when enemy artillery fire was intensified to cover the areas of Kar Shouba, Hattayrah and Wadi Assal. The commandos returned the fire until 10:10 a.m.

Helicopter-borne enemy paratroopers were landed in the area at 10:15 a.m. A violent clash between the Palestinian freedom fighters and the enemy paratroopers followed 15 minutes later. The commandos were able to gain full control of the battle, forcing the enemy to send at 11:00 a.m. a new wave of helicopter-borne reinforcements which in turn came under heavy commando fire.

The enemy started his retreat under heavy artillery and smoke screen cover around noon. The enemy was forced to evacuate the area completely by 1:00 p.m., leaving behind weapons and ammunition but carrying his dead and wounded.

Tareq Ali Denied US Visa

WASHINGTON — The State Department blocked Dec. 3 a visit to the United States by Tareq Ali, the Palestinian-British student leader who was to deliver the keynote address at a convention on the Palestine Revolution opening Dec. 5 at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan.

Ali, editor of Black Dwarf and editor and contributor to the recently published The New Revolutionaries, was invited by the Association of Arab-American University Graduates, Inc. to deliver the keynote speech opening the Second Annual Convention. The Dec. 5-7 convention at Wayne State University is The Palestine Revolution: Its International, Social and Technical Dimensions.

Ali's speech was to be on "The Palestine Revolution and Wars of National Liberation."

A lawyer for the association said the State Department's action was part of the U.S. administration's efforts to suppress points of views at variance with its policies.

US officials claimed they were denying the visa to Ali for his prominent participation in an antiwar demonstration Nov. 23 outside the U.S. embassy in London.

Commandos Prefer Death To Surrender

ACRE — Two Fateh freedom fighters held themselves up Nov. 22 in their own car, loaded with explosives they intended to use in "Operation Habbal"

in Haifa, when Israeli troops caught up with them on the entrance to the town of Acre on the Mediterranean coast and about 20 miles north of Haifa.

The two heroes are Ahmad Mohammed Bashier, 28 and Omar Hussein Mansour, 27.

Other members of the same Fateh squad made it to Haifa and planted explosives in Haifa Hazzarnel and at a petrol station at the other end of the port city.

The dramatic explosion killed or wounded an undetermined number of Israeli troops and damaged neighboring buildings. Shortly before midnight, the two Fateh heroes had set out to Haifa from their village, Majd el-Kurum, 10 miles east of Acre. They succeeded in breaking through an Israeli patrol which tried to intercept them on the outskirts of the old crusader city of 34,000. The patrol caught up with them however near the Jewish quarter at the entrance of the ancient town, where they blew themselves up in their explosive-laden Vauxhall.

Israeli occupation troops carried out searches in Majd el-Kurum and made an undetermined number of arrests there.

The incident heightened tension in Acre, where earlier several hundred Zionists tried to storm the old city where Pa-

lestinians Arab live.

The march by the Zionist gangs who were demanding the restoring of military government in Arab areas (which had been in effect from 1948 to 1966) followed the Nov. 20 announcement of the arrest in Acre of alleged local Fateh men on suspicion of being responsible for a series of guerrilla attacks in the Haifa area.

The fact that a Jewish woman in her late 20's, the wife of one of the arrested Palestinian Arabs, had also been taken into custody on suspicion of abetting and aiding, increased the Zionist gangs' wrath.

In a Zionist demonstration Saturday night, Nov. 22, before the explosion, a Palestinian Arab on a motorcycle was stopped and beaten up by roaming Zionist hoodlums.

The angry Zionist gangs completely lost their mind on the morning of Nov. 23, a few hours after the car explosion, and marched on the Palestinian Arab quarter of the town.

Worried Palestinian shopkeepers pulled down their shut-

ters and restaurants closed in the Arab quarter. Israeli police dispersed young Palestinians in the old city gathering to confront the onslaught, arming themselves with knives and clubs to resist the impending Zionist incursion.

An Israeli policeman who attempted to arrest a Zionist hoodlum assaulting a Palestinian was in turn set upon by the Zionist crowd.



Omar Mansour

Jews Protest Zionist Policy

JERUSALEM — About 200 Jewish people, mostly students, staged Nov. 25 a silent protest demonstration outside the Knesset (Parliament) building to condemn the Zionist policy of collective punishment against Palestinian Arabs.

A three man delegation, representing the Jewish demonstrators, was allowed to present a signed petition to the office of the Knesset speaker.

The demonstration was held right police permission on a hill overlooking the Knesset building, following a recent statement by the Minister of Defense, Moshe Dayan, which said at Palestinian civilian who helped or failed to report Palestinian commandos, near the "one of an incident, would also be 'spunhead'."



Ahmad Mohammed Bashier

Swiss Group Supports Fateh

The Information Bulletin of the Study Group on the Middle East which is headquartered in Geneva (General Secretary Georges Vaucher) carried the following commentary in its 18th edition of Nov. 7:

We shall confine ourselves to remark:

1. That the article of Mr. Hodgkin on the harshness of the occupation regime imposed on Palestine by Israel only confirms the numerous testimonies recorded by the Experts Group of the Human Rights Commission of the United Nations, the commission which was denied access into occupied territories by the Israeli authorities.

2. That, *The Times*, by asserting in its editorial entitled "To Be Fair to Both" that "it is fair for the Jews to have a national state," seems to admit that the late Lord Balfour and the United Nations Assembly had the right to create this state in Palestine, WITHOUT CONSULTING THE PALESTINIAN POPULATION. This explains the reprobation by the English daily of the resistance movement Fateh, which however was not taken seriously until it took up arms against the armed occupation of its homeland.

3. That, being the legitimate owners of the Palestinian territory, it is up to the Palestinian people to say under what conditions they accept the implantation, on their native land, of a Jewish colonization hailing in a major part from Poland, Russia, Germany and various other countries in North Africa and the Middle East.

By revolting against the establishment of a racist and confessional Jewish state while accepting that the Jews having come to Palestine shall coexist freely with the Moslem and Christian Palestinians in a secular and democratic state without any distinction as to race or religion, the resistance organization Fateh proves its broad-mindedness and its desire for peace.

4. In its issue of October 24, 1969, the weekly publication "Fateh" reports the recent case of torture of the young Palestinian, Miss Latifa Hawari, at Ramleh Prison.

Can't 'Amnesty International' investigate the genuineness of this accusation?

Study Group on the Middle East
Rue Pedro-Maylan 1
(angle 5, av. Kriegel)
1208 Genève, Suisse.

Acheson Opposed The Establishment Of Israel

In his new book, *Present at the Creation: My Years at the State Department*, former Secretary of State Dean Acheson bares for the first time his opposition to the establishment of the Israeli state in "Arab Palestine" (Acheson's own expression). The differences over the Palestine question marked his only major disagreement with President Truman.

"I did not share the President's view on the Palestine solution to the pressing and desperate plight of great numbers of displaced Jews in Eastern Europe. The numbers that could be absorbed by Arab Palestine without creating a grave problem would be inadequate, and to transform the country into a Jewish state capable of receiving a million or more immigrants would vastly exacerbate the serious problem and imperil not only American but all Western interests in the Near East. From Justice Brandeis, whom I revered, and Felix Frankfurter, my intimate friend, I had learned to understand, but not to share, the mystical emotion of the Jews to return to Palestine and end the Diaspora. In urging Zionism as an American Government policy, they had allowed, so I thought, their emotion to obscure the totality of American interest."

This book marks the first public pronouncement in this vein by an important American official since James Forrestal's

Palestinian Resistance Refuses Tutelage

Violence and armed struggle in occupied Palestine were imperative to bring the Palestinian Revolution to triumphant birth, and now that this birth has been completed, the Palestinian Revolution and Fateh in particular will not accept tutelage from anybody in any form.

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These were the salient remarks delivered by officials of the Palestinian National Liberation Movement, Fateh, to packed audiences at the American and Arab universities in Beirut Nov. 28 and Dec. 1, respectively.

Both speakers reiterated that the Palestinian Revolution wanted a strong, independent and sovereign Lebanon to stand by its side against the common Zionist enemy. Both said the Palestinian Revolution was equally determined not to allow any obstacle to obstruct the path of its struggle for liberation. Both reiterated also Fateh's refrain from attacking targets outside the occupied homeland, particularly civilian targets, and "we regard Israel as the heart of imperialism and we intend to hit at the heart of imperialism in the area" and the Palestinian Revolution does not need to make itself known to the rest of the world.

The two speakers also condemned attempts to splinter the liberation struggle into small commando organizations under one pretext or the other.

Here is a summary of the stages through which the Palestinian Revolution has gone since its inception as presented by one of the speakers:

Bringing the Palestinian Revolution to triumphant birth necessitated recourse to violence and armed struggle in occupied Palestine. In the words of Frankie Pannos, National Liberation, national resistance, the restoration of nationhood to the people whatever may be the headings used or the new formulas introduced, DECOLONIZATION IS ALWAYS A VIOLENT PHENOMENON.

Fateh waited from 1958 to the eve of 1965 to launch its first commando operation against the Zionist colonial-settlers' project to divert the Jordan River waters after realizing that the Arab governments were not giving priority to the war for recovery of Palestine.

For two subsequent years, the nucleus of the Palestinian Revolution undertook to rally the Palestinian masses to the cause

of liberation through armed struggle by launching guerrilla operations against the enemy within their sight.

June 5, 1967 engendered a new incentive for the revolutionary vanguards of Fateh to move into the newly occupied territories in order to make history and turn a new leaf in the Palestinian struggle.

Fateh's decision to undertake such move was made on August 28, 1967. It was immediately implemented at the expense of heroic sacrifices which cost the Movement the lives, within three months, of 46 of its best men. Including 26 officers, those were an elite group because they were trained and raised during periods of oppression and severe hardships.

At the end of 1967, Fateh considered that the three-month phase had achieved its purpose and that the revolution's success now depended on its ability to move from THE PHASE OF DISPERSEMENT AND VAGRANCY TO THAT OF CONSOLIDATING THE NECESSARY MILITARY SET-UP FOR LIBERATION.

Guerrilla war cannot achieve liberation but it is the cornerstone for building a popular liberation army. For this reason, Fateh decided to establish a secure base for its forces in the Aghwar (Jordan Valley). Fateh's three-month experience in late 1967 had proved that a secure base could be established on the West Bank. In fact, a secure base implies that the revolutionaries can work at it openly and without interruption. It implies that it should be located amidst the masses but in contact with the enemy so that its members can learn warfare by actually practicing it. It also implies that it can be defended. Fateh realized that occupied Palestine constituted the actual battlefield rather than the secure base.

The difficulties encountered in setting up the secure base in the Aghwar were tremendous and were on the verge of leading to a confrontation between the Palestinian Revolutionaries and the authorities in Jordan. The solution to the crisis was afforded by the enemy himself in his attack on al-Karamah on Thursday, March 21, 1968. The Palestinian commandos and the Jordan troops fought side by side to repel the enemy's onslaught on al-Karamah.

The decision to stay put at al-Karamah braved guerrilla rules which require a tactical retreat when the enemy advances. The Palestinian Revolution is not an exact replica of other guerrilla war experiences. Fateh believes that it is not always necessary to retreat when the enemy advances; this was the case at al-Karamah.

The battle of al-Karamah enabled the Palestinian Revolution to set-up the safe base it was after in the Aghwar. The base port on the sea built a popular army without delay.

While people were busy celebrating the victory of al-Ka-

ramah, Fateh was pondering over the new problems confronting the revolution. In two weeks, the ranks of its freedom fighters grew from 722 to about 3,000 most of whom had kiki uniforms but lacked political awareness, military training, arms, medical supplies etc.

After al-Karamah, the revolution embarked on the phase of founding the nucleus of the Palestinian popular army. Thousands of our men were sent for training abroad.

This extensive training of the revolution continued throughout the frustrating 1968 year. By the end of 1969, however, the Palestinian liberation struggle took new dimensions with such major operations as the Green Bell, Good Land, the Bayonets of Fateh, Deir Yassin, Farhan al-Saudi etc., as well as the raids in Jericho and the rocket attacks on Haifa.

Though we are proud of these operations, the most important achievement of the force of the Palestinian Revolution has been the 28 branches they succeeded in setting up in the enemy's establishment, in making through extremely complex enemy maneuvers and electronic devices opposite Beisan. This proved the ability of the revolution to break and leap into occupied Palestine despite the enemy's efforts to seal off the occupied territory. This is what paved the way for the major operations.

In a year and a half, the Palestinian Revolution was able to establish the secure base in the Aghwar, to found the nucleus of the popular army, to secure the freedom of movement of the Palestinian masses in the Arab host countries, to foil plots aimed at, to prevent the liquidation of the Palestine cause and to find counteracts to enemy tactics.

Israeli Treatment Of Prisoners to Be Investigated

LONDON — Amnesty International said Thursday it will send representatives to the Middle East to obtain facts and information, and to demand Israel's treatment of Arab prisoners.

The London-based, founded in 1961 to campaign for the release of political prisoners anywhere in the world, said its report on Israeli treatment earlier this year "revealed serious and substantiated evidence of ill treatment of prisoners in detention or under interrogation."

The international executive committee of Amnesty International considered that the report on the Israeli treatment in April "leaves many questions unanswered."

Editor's Note: The series of three articles on "The Palestine Revolution and the Jews" will appear in our next issue, No. 7. The first article in the series appeared in issue No. 5 of Nov. 20.



Zionists Boost Gaza Terror

GAZA — Zionist terror in the occupied Gaza Strip continues but it has only helped intensify the heroic resistance of its Palestinian civilians.

On Nov. 19, Israeli occupation troops shot dead two Palestinians for reportedly "breaking the curfew" imposed on both Rafah and Gaza on Nov. 15 following a hand grenade attack on the Military Governor Col. Benjamin Beitov (James Peron however reported in the Herald Tribune on Nov. 20 that the areas are under curfew imposed as punishment because residents have refused to come forward with information about resistance incidents).

Shopkeepers "who are assumed to have seen" the men who threw grenades at Israeli patrols are prevented from doing business. This is in addition to the night curfew.

On Nov. 19, also, Palestinian resistance machine-gunned an Israeli vehicle at sundown wounding three Israelis. A curfew was slapped on Beit Hanan, near the scene of the ambush, and on neighboring Jabalya.

Earlier in the day a curfew was also put by the occupation army in Khan Yunis following a grenade attack on occupation troops.

On Nov. 21, Israeli occupation troops set fire to the vegetable market in Gaza and blew up nine buildings near it.

Three days later, on Nov. 25, a 24-year-old girl student, Sal-

wa Mahmoud was killed instantly by the Israelis with a bullet in the head. Two other civilians, including a 4-year old boy, were injured seriously. The Israeli soldiers opened fire on the three civilians when a grenade was hurled at a patrol near Gaza City high school. The man who hurled the grenade managed to escape.

On Dec. 1, a United Nations spokesman in occupied Jerusalem announced that the 20 families of UN observers will be moved from their homes in the Gaza Strip because of increased tension there.

The spokesman said most of the 20 families would move to Jerusalem.

He said the removal of the families was decided "out of consideration for their welfare."

On Dec. 2, Gaza was linked to Israel's electricity grid despite objections by Mayor R. Alami who described the act as political. Workshops and light industries which recently acquired

modern machinery were unable to operate because of lack of power.

French Party Breaks Ties With Mafam

PARIS — France's Socialist United Party (PSU) announced Dec. 1 it was breaking off contacts with the Israeli Mafam Party because of disagreement over Israeli government policy.

The party, whose Secretary General Michel Rocard defeated former French Premier Maurice Couve de Murville in a by-election last October, also recognized the representative character of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The announcement from the PSU political leadership said the party was going to make a study of the Palestine problem.

PIERRE, DAKOTA — South Dakota governor Frank Farnar told a press conference here Nov. 20 "I don't believe we would go wrong in giving these people (of Israel) what they need to fight Arab aggression. They are a peaceful people, not apt to go looking for fights. They aren't going to use any arms we sell them to commit acts of aggression."

GOLDA MEIR

Following is a self-explanatory series of recent statements by Zionist leaders of the settler-state of Israel:

MOSHE DAYAN

November 12: Only 140 homes have been blown up in occupied territory since April 4. Demolitions are not the only punishment. (Israeli) Counter-measures include NEIGHBORHOOD PUNISHMENT.

December 1: The term neighborhood punishment is an incorrect description of Israeli policy in occupied territories. I am a minister of defense not a minister of terrorism.

November 13: The inhabitants of houses demolished by the security forces had harbored armed Fatah men who carried out acts of terrorism and murder.

November 26: Israel's policy had been and continued to be essentially a liberal one, almost without precedent in the history of military occupations.

ABBA EBAN

November 27: We find ourselves ruling a community of 950,000 which does not wish to be ruled by us.

November 21: In Israel, life is peaceful and prosperous.

First Time In 21 Years Jews Supply Arms To Palestinians

TEL AVIV — Two young Israeli Jews have been jailed on suspicion of "selling arms" to Palestinian Arabs, the Israeli police said Nov. 21.

It was believed to be the first such case in 21 years. The Jews, both 20, and not further identified, were denied bail and remained in jail for 15 days pending further investigation, the police added.

The men accused the men, residents of Kfar Sava, a small town just north of Tel Aviv, of selling them revolvers and one Karl Gustav sub-machinegun to the Palestinians Arabs in Tira village.

Six Palestinians also have been arrested in the case.

One newspaper said it was not unlikely the guns would have been used in "hostile action."

Police also detained the Jewish wife of an "Israeli Arab" (i.e., Palestinian Arab under Zionist occupation since 1948) from Acre, one of nine picked up Nov. 20 on suspicion of setting off explosive charges in Haifa.

40 Palestinians Jailed Each Week

JERUSALEM — Israeli official sources conceded Nov. 26 and for the first time that "some 2800" Palestinian Arabs and "about 110 Israeli Arabs" (i.e., Palestinians under occupation since 1948) are now serving prison terms in Israeli jails.

The Israeli sources said the Palestinians prisoners include "a few dozen women."

They said Israeli troops arrest an average of 40 Palestinian "suspects each week."

Dr. Julius Mader, of East Germany, has set the actual number of Palestinian prisoners in Zionist jails at 17,316 during the second half of the current year, mostly civilians arrested arbitrarily for happening to be in areas of explosions, or demonstrators, or strikers against occupation of their country. (For full report on Zionist prisons refer to "Fateh" Issue No. 5 of Nov. 20).

recently. The woman was held as an accessory.

The arrested Palestinians were accused of membership in Fateh and were identified as follows:

1. Fawzi Ahmad Nimr, 33
2. Fatahalla Mahmoud Sakka, 27
3. Abdallah Ibrahim Izzabou, 25
4. Ramez Tewfik Khalifeh, 31
5. Mohammed Hussein Samra, 24
6. Youssef Hassan Abu-Kheir, 26

Palestine Seminar To Be Held In Kuwait

The General Union of Palestine Students (GUPS) is planning to hold its second International Panel Discussion on Palestine tentatively in Kuwait next March.

Arrangements for all aspects of the intended panel are underway following preliminary contacts with the Kuwait Alumni Club.

This would be a follow up to the widely attended and successful First International Panel Discussion on Palestine which was held in Cairo March 30-April 6, 1965. A total of 108 countries were represented at the said panel through individual participants and international youth, student and popular organizations. Among the prominent figures attending the panel, Anthony M. Amos, William Rodinson and Pierre Rossi of France Krishna Menon of India, Anthony M. Amos, William Rodinson and Pierre Rossi of France Krishna Menon of India, and the late Mahdi Ben Baraka of Morocco.

The panel discussion will focus on all aspects and dimensions of the Palestine Revolution.

The sponsors would welcome suggestions from our readers particularly as to potential conferees (name, address and brief background), and specific topics for discussion.

Institute for Palestine Studies' 1967 Year Book Offers Scientific Reference

Those who worked on the book include Dr. Burhan Dajani, Antoine Bishara, Fouad Yabari, Godfrey Janssen, Ibrahim Khalidi, Walid Abu Mursheid George Deeb, and Elias Ghanou. Dr. Dajani acted as editor.

The 1967 Palestine Year Book is divided into six parts, the first of which deals with collective Arab action before the June war, including the Arab Summit Conference, Palestinian popular and official action.

The second part of the book deals with Zionist activities all over the world while the third discusses political and social conditions in Israel. In fact, the third part discusses every aspect of Israeli life and activity, including the building of the armed forces.

Well-documented maps reveal conditions on all fronts before the June war.

Palestine action on the international front is also included of the fourth section while the

fifth section concentrates on the Palestine question at the United Nations, including the various resolutions adopted by the Security Council.

The last section of the book is devoted to the economic conditions in Israel during 1967. Perhaps the most important aspect of the book refers to a fact that has been mentioned but never put in writing - that the June war was a one-sided battle in which the Arabs actually never participated.

The Six Day War, according to the Palestine Year Book, was an outright accident between world Zionism and the U.S., in which U.S. help concentrated on transforming Israel from a state of "expansion" and aggression. The fact comes out that the Palestine Year Book for 1967 can act as scientific reference for any researcher and anyone interested in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Neighborhood Punishment & World Press

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR
(November 11)

Israel's occupation policy has entered a new and hardened phase - with increased travel restrictions and the stepped-up punitive action of blowing up homes...

PRAVDA
(November 7)

In what does the new Dayan doctrine differ from what the Fascists did in occupied territories... Judging by everything, the present rulers of Israel have decided to follow the path of Hitlerism.

NEWSWEEK
(November 4)

And from this conviction has come an increasing tendency among the occupied Arabs to support the Palestinian commandos and local terrorists. "There is no question, admitted Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, "The Fateh has struck roots." It was to counter this development that the Israelis decided to adopt a policy of environmental punishment and Dayan himself traveled the occupied territories to bring the stern new message to Arab leaders. Dayan's message went like this, "You must understand that if terrorist activity goes on, life will become unbearable for you. Your alternatives are to fight the terrorists yourselves, to denounce them and ask our help - or to suffer." When terrorism is not only continued but increased, Israeli occupation troops went into action...

TIME
(November 21)

The houses of suspects have been destroyed, the owners exiled to Arab countries or imprisoned...under Dayan's new concept of neighborhood punishment.

THE TIMES
(November 18)

The occupation is now much harsher than it was a year ago. More people are being arrested, more houses are being destroyed, the atmosphere in Gaza is even worse, and the atmosphere here is almost as bad. It is a measure of the terrorists' success. The guerrillas are getting more efficient. There is a process of natural selection, as there was in Algeria and in occupied Europe. Inefficient guerrillas - the boasters, the careless - get caught or killed. The careful survive, or survive longer, and do more damage. No amount of Israeli retaliation will change them. On the contrary, it will stiffen their resistance, help their recruiting.

THE ECONOMIST
(November 29)

But since cover includes declining to give information about an actual or suspected terrorist to the Israeli security forces, it is not difficult, given the circumstances of military occupation, to find a whole street, or whole village, guilty. A senior Israeli officer confirmed this week that the policy, as described by Dayan, was to continue.

CEYLON OBSERVER
(November 20)

Right through history the civilized world has protested against the barbaric device of collective punishment. It is the impetuous reaction of one who finds the spirit of oppression is untenable. Records of history show it has failed in its purpose.

Abu Ammar to Palestinian Youth:

"You Are The Generation Of Victory"

Abu Ammar told a group of Palestinian teenagers Nov 27: "We are the generation of defeat and you are the generation of victory."

The official Fateh spokesman and PLO chairman addressed the group at the opening of Fateh's first Youth Camp (age range 14 to 17).

Abu Ammar said Palestinians must not lay down their arms before liberating their homeland - the mistake of 1948 must never be repeated.

Abu Ammar told the young Palestinians: "It is you who are called upon not to repeat the mistake... We are the generation of victory."

tion of defeat and you are the generation of victory."

Abu Ammar revealed that the Palestinian men joined Fateh's

first commando training camp in 1965. Of these, he said, 19 graduated. Today, Abu Ammar went on, "hundreds and thousands of our people are being trained. What has enabled us to achieve this? Determination, the determination of revolutionaries."

Abu Ammar emphasized "we do not want to create a group of fighters but a fighting population - men and women, young and old."



Palestinian Lawyer Describes Zionist Style Torture

JERUSALEM - The Israeli military occupation court in Ramallah heard how a Palestinian Arab lawyer, Bashir Khairi, was tortured by Israeli security officers with two other Palestinians on charge of co-operating with commando organizations.

Lawyer Khairi told the court that he was subjected to the most violent kinds of torture physically and mentally. He said it may sound unbelievable, but it is true.

Khairi said on the night of Feb 26 1969, he was contacted by telephone to report to the police immediately. At the police station he was kept waiting till 3:30 a.m. of the next morning when he was removed to a cell in the Ramallah prison for interrogation. Later he was taken to Jerusalem. There two Israeli officers slapped him on the face when he denied any knowledge of cooperation with the commandos. He afterwards was beaten with a whip for three hours during which his clothes were taken off and freezing water poured on him until he lost consciousness.

The next morning a third Israeli officer interrogated him, and again Khairi was beaten with a thick stick by the officer on his genitals, until he lost consciousness once more.

Khairi told the court that under detention which continued for 42 days he learned of

the death of a Palestinian prisoner, Kassem Tamini, as a result of torture and of the transfer of another Palestinian detainee, Abdul Muhsin Ali-Ramallah, to a mental hospital.

Khairi also told the court that the Israeli officer pressed on his neck to force him stretch out his tongue while urine was poured on.

Khairi said that he made certain marks on the wall of the 80x90 centimeters cell in which he was detained at the Sarafand Detention Camp pending his trial.

Khairi told the court that he had to sign a confession to save himself further torture but he denied any contact with commando organizations.

The trial was to be resumed later this month.

'SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN MOVEMENTS IN AMERICA
THREATENS U.S. JEW'

CHICAGO - New Left support for the Palestine Liberation movements is causing great concern in Zionist circles.

Rabbi S. Jacobs, chairman of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, said in Chicago Nov. 30 that Zionists "must expect a great increase of overt anti-Israel propaganda in America because the New Left, seeking a new cause to replace the issue of Vietnam, has found it in the identification with the Fateh movement."

He said the attraction of some young Jews to a movement, that cites Israel as imperialist, "has already been tremendously damaging to the cause of Israel."

Jacobs called for an "information (brainwashing) program" to counteract the New Left stance on Israel.

Rabbi Jacobs said he has seen no increase in anti-Israeli feeling but that American public opinion on "the Middle East" is changing.

Jacobs' fears were dismissed as irrelevant by a member of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) who said:

"We're not for the extermination of Jews or that kind of thing - we're anti-oppressors. We oppose Israeli expansion because it oppresses the Arab people and gives U.S. imperialism a base in the Middle East."

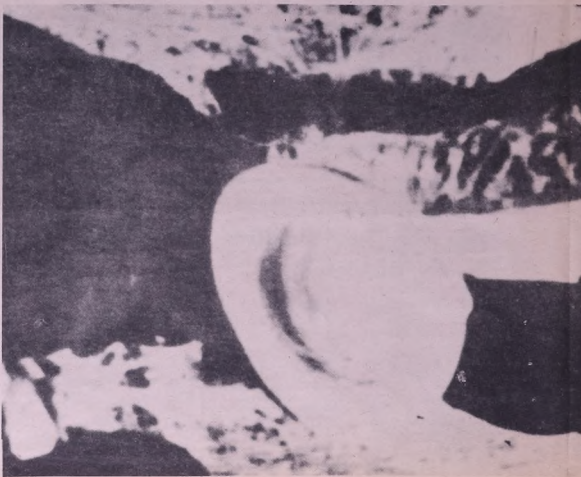
UN Body Raps Israeli Collective Punishment

UNITED NATIONS - The U.N. Social Committee Nov. 20 adopted an urgent resolution condemning Israeli practices of collective and area punishment in occupied Palestine.

The resolution, which is expected to receive endorsement from the General Assembly later this month, was adopted by 21 votes, with 11 against and 5 abstentions.

Liberia, Dahomey, Dominican Republic, Israel, Bolivia, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Rwanda, Swaziland and Uruguay opposed the resolution which "condemns such policies and practices as collective and area punishment, the destruction of homes and the deportation of the inhabitants of the Israeli occupied territories."

FATEH



arab people the prospect

(EDITOR'S NOTE: One might ask why did the Zionist Jews resort to terrorist tactics to drive the Palestinians out of their homes and, when failed, to their physical and forcible expulsion? The answer is to be found in the underlying Zionist racist objective of creating in Palestine a state which would be racially, religiously and exclusively Jewish. Professor Maxime Rodinson has observed that the Jewish character of the state is 'the prime aim and postulate of Zionist Ideology'. In other words, the Zionists wanted to convert Palestine into a state for the Jews and no one else but the Jews. The realisation of this objective necessitated the displacement of the

original inhabitants and their dispossession of their lands. The racial and religious exclusiveness of the Jewish state as envisaged in the Zionist program had long been emphasized by Zionist leaders. The British Statement of Policy of 1922 referred to unauthorized statements which had been made to the effect that the purpose of the Balfour Declaration was to create a wholly Jewish Palestine and that Palestine was to become as Jewish as England is English. Following is the full text of this British statement of Policy (British Commonwealth Paper No. 1700) also known as The "White Paper" of June, 1922 or as the Churchill Memorandum.)

The Secretary of State for the Colonies has given renewed consideration to the existing political situation in Palestine with a very earnest desire to arrive at a settlement of the outstanding questions which have given rise to uncertainty and unrest among certain sections of the population. After consultation with His High Commissioner for Palestine the following statement has been drawn up. It summarizes the essential parts of the correspondence that has already taken place between the Secretary of State and a Delegation from the Moslem Christian Society of Palestine, which has been for some time in England, and it states the further conclusions which have since been reached.

The tension which has prevailed from time to time in Palestine is mainly due to apprehensions, which are entertained both by sections of the Arab and by sections of the Jewish population. These apprehensions, so far as the Arabs are concerned, are partly based upon exaggerated interpretations of the meaning of the Declaration favouring the establishment of a Jewish National Home in Palestine, made on behalf of His Majesty's Government on 2nd November, 1917.

UNAUTHORISED STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE PURPOSE IN VIEW IS TO CREATE A WHOLLY JEWISH PALESTINE. PHRASES HAVE BEEN USED SUCH AS THAT PALESTINE IS TO BECOME "AS JEWISH AS ENGLAND IS ENGLISH". HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT REGARDS ANY SUCH EXPECTATION AS IMPRACTICABLE AND IN ACCORD WITH NO SUCH AIM IN VIEW, NOR HAVE THEY AT ANY TIME CONTEMPLATED, AS APPEARS REFLECTED BY THE ARAB DELEGATION, THE DISAPPEARANCE OR THE SUBORDINATION OF THE ARABIC POPULATION, LANGUAGE OR CULTURE IN PALESTINE. THEY WOULD DRAW ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THE TERMS OF THE DECLARATION REFERRED TO DO NOT CONTEMPLATE THAT PALESTINE AS A WHOLE SHOULD BE CONVERTED INTO A JEWISH NATIONAL HOME, BUT THAT SUCH A HOME SHOULD BE FOUNDED IN PALESTINE. In this connection it has been observed with satisfaction that at the meeting of the Zionist Congress, the supreme governing body of the Zionist Organization, held at Carlsbad in September, 1921, a resolution was passed expressing as the official statement of Zionist aims the determination of the Jew-

ish people to live with the Arab people on terms of unity and mutual respect, and together to work for the betterment of the home into a flourishing community, the upbuilding of which would assure to each of its peoples and undisturbed national development."

It is also necessary to point out that the Zionist Commission in Palestine, now termed the Palestine Zionist Executive, has not desired to possess, and does not possess any share in the general administration of the country. Nor does the special position assigned to the Zionist Organisation in Article 2 of the Mandate for Palestine imply any such functions. That special position relates to the measures to be taken in Palestine affecting the Jewish population, and contemplates that the Organisation may assist in the general development of the country, but does not entitle it to share in any degree in its Government.

Further, it is contemplated that the status of all citizens of Palestine in the eyes of the law shall be Palestinian, and it has never been intended that they, or any section of them, should possess any other juridical status.

So far as the Jewish population of Palestine are concerned, it appears that some among them are apprehensive that His Majesty's Government may depart from the policy embodied in the Declaration of 1917. It is necessary, therefore, to state more to affirm that these fears are unfounded, and that the Declaration, re-affirmed by the Conference of the Principal Allied Powers at San Remo and again in the Treaty of Sevres, is not susceptible of change.

During the last two or three generations the Jews have created in Palestine a community, now numbering 80,000, of whom about one-fourth are farmers or workers upon the land. This community has its own political organs, an elected assembly for the direction of its domestic concerns; elected councils in the towns; and an organisation for the control of its schools. It has its elected Chief Rabbinate and Rabbinical Council for the direction of its religious affairs, its business is conducted in Hebrew as a vernacular language, and a Hebrew press serves its needs. It has its distinctive intellectual life and displays considerable economic activity. This community, then, with its town and country population, its political, religious and social organisations, its own language, its own customs, its own life in fact "national" character-

istics. WHEN IT IS ASKED WHAT IS MEANT BY THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE JEWISH NATIONAL HOME IN PALESTINE, IT MAY BE ANSWERED THAT IT IS NOT THE IMPOSITION OF A JEWISH NATIONALITY UPON THE INHABITANTS OF PALESTINE AS A WHOLE, BUT THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE EXISTING JEWISH COMMUNITY, with the assistance of Jews in other parts of the world, in order that it may become a centre in which the Jewish people as a whole may take, on grounds of religion and race, an interest and a pride. But in order that this community should have the best prospect of free development and provide a full opportunity for the Jewish people to display its capacities, it is essential that it should know that it is in Palestine as of right and not on sufferance. That is the reason why it is necessary that the existence of a Jewish National Home in Palestine should be internationally guaranteed, and that it should be formally recognised to rest upon ancient historic foundation.

This, then, is the interpretation which His Majesty's Government place upon the Declaration of 1917, and so understood, the Secretary of State is of opinion that it does not contain or imply anything which need cause either alarm to the Jewish population of Palestine or disappointment to the Jews. For the fulfilment of this policy it is necessary that the Jewish community in Palestine should be able to increase its numbers by immigration. The immigration of Jews is of great volume as to exceed whatever may be the economic capacity of the country, and to absorb new arrivals. It is essential to ensure that the immigrant should not be a burden upon the people of Palestine as a whole, and that they should not be deprived of the opportunity to present population of their employment. Hitherto the immigration has fulfilled these conditions. The number of immigrants since the British occupation has been about 25,000.

It is necessary also to ensure that persons who are politically undesirable are excluded from immigration, and that persons who have been and will be taken by the Administration to that end, it is necessary that a committee should be established in Palestine, consisting entirely of members of the Legislative Council elected by the people, to confer with the Administration upon matters relating to the restriction of immigration. Should any difference of opinion arise between this committee and the Administration, the matter will be referred to His Majesty's Government who will give special consideration. In addition, under Article 81 of the draft constitution of the proposed Jewish National Home, it is provided that religious community or considerable section of the population of the country may appeal to the High Commissioner and the Secretary of State, to the League of Nations, or any other authority on which they may consider that the terms of the Mandate are not being fulfilled by the Government of Palestine.

With reference to the Constitution which it is now intended to establish in Palestine, the draft of which has already been published, it is desirable to make certain points clear, in the first place, it is not the case,

as has been represented by the Arab Delegation, cited during the war His Majesty's Government gave an undertaking that an independent state would be established in Palestine. This representation mainly rests upon a letter dated the 24th October, 1915, from Sir Henry McMahon, then His Majesty's High Commissioner in Egypt, to the Sherif of Mecca, now King Hussein of the Kingdom of the Hejaz. That letter is quoted as conveying the promise to the Sherif of Mecca to recognise and support the independence of the Arabs within the territories proposed by him. But this promise was given subject to a reservation made in the same letter, which excluded from its scope, among other territories, the portions of Syria lying to the west of the district of Damascus. This reservation has always been regarded by His Majesty's Government as covering the vilayet of Beirut and the independent Sanjak of Jerusalem. The whole of Palestine west of the Jordan was thus excluded from Sir H. McMahon's pledge.

Nevertheless, it is the intention of His Majesty's Government to foster the establishment of a full measure of self-government in Palestine. But they are of opinion that, in the special circumstances of that country, this should be accomplished by gradual stages and not suddenly. The first step was taken when, on the institution of a civil administration, the mandated advisory Council, which now exists, was established. It was stated in the letter to the High Commissioner that this was the first step in development of self-governing institutions, and it is now proposed to take a second step by the establishment of a Legislative Council containing a large proportion of members elected on a wide franchise. It was also stated in the letter that three of the members of this Council should be non-official persons nominated by the High Commissioner, but representations having been made in opposition to this provision, based on cogent considerations, the Secretary of State is prepared to omit it. The Legislature which would thus consist of the High Commissioner as President and twelve

elected and ten official members. The Secretary of State is of opinion that before a further measure of self-government could be introduced in Palestine, and the Assembly placed in control over the Executive, it would be necessary to allow some time to elapse. During this period the institutions of the country will have become well established; its financial credit will be based on firm foundations, and the Palestinian officials will have been enabled to gain experience of sound methods of government. After a few years the situation will be again reviewed, and if the experience of the working of the constitution now to be established so warranted, a larger share of authority would then be extended to the elected representatives of the people.

The Secretary of State would point out that already the present Administration has transferred to a Supreme Council elected by the Moslem community of Palestine the entire control of Moslem religious endowments (Waqfs), and of the Moslem religious courts. To this Council the Administration has also voluntarily restored from ancient endowments which had been sequestered by the Turkish Government. The Education Department is also advised by a committee representative of all sections of the population, and the Department of Commerce and Industry has the benefit of the cooperation of the Chambers of Commerce which have been established in the principal centres. It is the intention of the Administration to associate in an increased degree similar representative committees with the various Departments of the Government.

The Secretary of State believes that a policy upon these lines coupled with the maintenance of the fullest religious liberty in Palestine and with scrupulous regard for the rights of each community with reference to its Holy Places, cannot but commend itself to the various sections of the population, and that upon this basis may be built up that spirit of co-operation upon which the future progress and prosperity of the Holy Land must largely depend.

FAITH

IN GAZA this week, the market price for grenades is three dollars—men, not machines—five Israeli pounds, or \$1.66. At this curfew wage, they function more days than not. Also more days than not, the Israeli troops pick them up, their unpaid wages still stuffed in their shirt fronts. The grenade boys usually harm more of their compatriots than Israelis. They have established a strong claim to being the most inefficient—as well as the cheapest—hired guns of modern times.

Even so, their maladroitness has achieved something, perhaps even their masters' aim. In this they have been abetted by Major-General Moshe Dayan. His policy of "collective punishment," or let us call it reprisal, for that is what he means, has driven the uncommitted among the Arabs in Israel—and they did once exist—into the arms of the 100 per cent, also-orchestrated haters. Between them, they have turned this place, which at best was an uneasy armistice of the Middle East, into a city as menacing and as terrified as Saigon after the Tet offensive.

Here, indifferent Israeli snipers were shooting at heads moving in the windows in the street of Omar El Mubashar. Here, when there was a bang, groups of tiny uniformed Arab girls scurried past the town hall like so many terrified black rabbits. Private houses were destroyed to encourage the others, and the biggest Arab school was closed to make an army camp. Effectively, this Arab town of more than 50,000 was under siege.

The terrorists, by means of their 125-60 hired boys, have evidently achieved their aim—to alienate the population and their occupiers. There are consequently Israeli officers there who admire all Gaza, and who talk of "last summer" with a certain lyricism. They say next summer, once the Dayan plan has eliminated the terrorists, could be happy.

BUT WAS last summer so good? One observer, and he was there before terrorism was making young soldiers trigger-happy, found conditions unacceptable even then. It is reasonable to ask whether what is happening now is a product of what was done then.

He is an observer worth listening to because, apart from anything else, he is an Israeli, by education and by temperament even a Zionist, and this is what he found.

The first thing was hunger. During his period of reserve duty on the Gaza Strip, which he described later as "the most horrible three weeks of my life," he was approached by children who were happy to work any day, he says, for leftovers from some dinner or even waste food from which the Israeli army dumps in plastic bags.

During his service he visited two hospitals where, among usually mothers, were, according to the staff, in the habit of stealing food from their meals served up to their sick children.

This was one of the most serious allegations, and one of the easiest to confirm. Several neutral health workers in the area said that they had often seen this happen. Indeed, as long as they were asked their names would not be cited they said they had come to find it quite normal.

Moshe Dayan, Israel's famous Defence Minister at the time, last spring in a recorded interview that hunger conditions in some parts of the Gaza Strip were unacceptable, and had for Israeli prestige in the world there was no source, apart from this official one, but the method which occupying forces

ON OCTOBER 38, The London Times published an article by its foreign editor, E.C. Hodgkin, which was headed "Orbin reports of repression from Israel-occupied lands." (which we reprinted in our November 10 issue) It described how Palestinians in the Israeli occupied territory were "being persecuted into a new diaspora by the armies and people of Israel." This article caused an international furor. Many instances of repression reported in it have been strenuously denied by the Israeli authorities.

The editorial operations of the Sunday Times are quite independent of those of the Times. And it so happens that more than a week before The Times' article appeared, the Sunday Times had been entirely separately approached by an Israeli citizen with an account of conditions in one of the Israel-administered territories—the Gaza Strip. The account comes from a long and detailed statement which he gave the Sunday Times and to which he swore on oath.

The reporter who was chosen to check the informant's statement was DAVID LEITCH. He has been visiting Israel, for which "he has a deep sympathy and affection," at intervals since 1963. Now here is his report, which we reprint from the Sunday Times of Nov. 23.



Curfew time on the Gaza Strip . . . and Arabs are rounded up for searching

are reported to have used last summer against the occupied.

He saw, and heard from fellow soldiers, how the authorities treated Gaza Arabs, months before Israeli officials began to talk about environmental, or neighbourhood punishment.

The first approach involved arbitrary curfew of the kind recently used as a reprisal against terrorism. In the village of Beit Sahur, near Bethlehem, among other places, the inhabitants are forbidden to leave their homes for almost the whole 24 hours; they can only go out to get food and water for perhaps two hours a day. In Gaza, they are usually tiny, have no sanitation or running water, and are sometimes shared with livestock. This is a severe punishment.

This witness says that such curfews were imposed against small villages at random, even when there had been no acts of terrorism. When there were terrorist incidents in the area he claims the reaction of his unit was "much tougher."

This witness says that such curfews were applied, but only the women were kept indoors. The men were driven into the desert in trucks and sometimes taken to the desert. When they arrived at an isolated spot they were divided according to age into two groups. The younger were forced to squat on the ground for several hours, he says for as long as eight hours at a time.

There were also harsher measures, which the witness says were common knowledge among soldiers serving on the Strip this summer, but which he never witnessed himself. He

says that during a coffee party in his tent (the Israeli army is dry) half a dozen soldiers told him the best way to combat terrorism was to bind suspects tightly with electric wire on arms and legs, and leave them in the sun.

These were not young soldiers telling tall stories, he says, but mature reservists chatting unemotionally, without even much interest (which was the single thing that made the deepest impression on him). He also says they reported beating Arab men on the shins with the butts of automatic weapons, sometimes until their legs were broken.

How accurate are 'these accounts? And do the events they describe result from official policy? The first question is desperately hard to answer. Many Arabs around Gaza have told me similar stories in the last weeks, but even President Nasser could not call them good witnesses. They were vague on details, they were carried away by their own rhetoric (even filtered by an interpreter) and evidently biased.

On the other hand, an Arab professional man—he is under such pressure that I cannot even say which—told me a very similar account. And this was, also largely confirmed in the course of a series of extremely guarded conversations with international workers in the area, most of whom are concerned, above all, to avoid offending the occupying authorities.

Moreover, they are frankly terrified that any statement of theirs will be used to prevent them from obtaining all kinds of essential services.

All of these witnesses, some of whom have spoken at first hand, and others only through hearsay, must be treated with some reserve. But the Israeli soldier, I believe, is in a different category.

He is not only a Jew; he is a devoted one. He has served in the Israeli army during two wars. He is a highly educated man, and indeed one of some distinction in his profession. He knows people, Israelis like himself, who have told me very similar stories. Finally, this witness, who, it should be said, is unlike the majority of dissident sources in Tel Aviv in that he is anti-Communist, has gone so far as to swear a detailed statement which is in the possession of the Sunday Times. The evidence is by no means conclusive. It does, at the very least, establish a prima facie case for some kind of independent inquiry. And it is not the only evidence.

Next, a set of statements, which deal with Arabs under detention in Israel, fall into much the same category. They have been obtained from both Arab and Israeli sources, and via access to defendants' statements and court transcripts, I have selected four examples which are, in various ways,

It would be possible, given time, to add about 40 more. But the following are in themselves sufficient to warrant an inquiry. They show a pattern of treatment, and to torture.

For historical reasons which do not require emphasis this is a subject which is highly sensitive in Israel. I should like to believe that a government based on all kinds of humane ideals is prepared to make these

methods an instrument of policy. Are the allegations true or not? That is a question which an independent group could decide. But, again, the evidence available is enough in itself to cause great concern.

The evidence of Lutfieh El Houari

THE FIRST statement comes from a woman and it, should be said, a damned tough one. She is called Lutfieh El Houari, she is 25, and she was arrested in August this year in Ramallah. The charges against her were numerous: being a member of an unlawful organisation and attempted murder were the most serious.

According to her prosecutors, and their case has not been contradicted with any conviction, on June 5, 1968—the second anniversary of the outbreak of the Six-Day War—she and four girlfriends despatched a bottle of poisoned whisky to some Palestinian Arabs whom they regarded as collaborators. She confessed to most of the charges against her, but on November 1968, when she was in Ramallah, her lawyer claimed that her statements had been extracted through torture and fear. This is what she says happened.

She was taken to Beit Shemesh and interrogated for 15 days. During this period she was kept in solitary confinement, without visits, and was handcuffed. She says her interrogators, threatened her with the same punishment that she had received a year earlier while under administrative arrest.

Then, she says, she was put in the same cell as a group of Jewish prostitutes mostly from the Yemen. They had been arrested and were encouraged to do so by the guards. She claims that during her solitary confinement she was prevented from using the lavatory, which was particularly painful for her as she was convalescing from an operation for appendicitis at the time of her arrest.

She also claims that police or soldiers (she is not sure which) threatened that her house would be blown up unless she confessed. Eventually she did, but the house was blown up anyway. Miss Houari has given many more details of her alleged ill-treatment to her lawyer, who has made an official protest, so far without response.

The evidence of Ichak Ali El Marari

ICHAK ALI EL MARARI was arrested on March 7, 1969, in Jerusalem. After two months of solitary confinement, he claimed he had no access either to his lawyer or to his family. He was charged with being a member of an illegal organisation, and with terrorism. He is still in prison, the charges against him were dropped on March 1969.

He says, and I have seen his statements, that he was so maltreated during the interrogation period, that the marks would have been visible in court.

His story, which is similar to that of many others, tells of being beaten on the hands with a stick, and of being held in water and medical treatment refused.

In his statement, which his lawyer sent on September 15 this year—so far without response—to Israel's Attorney-General, the Minister of Defence, and the Minister of Justice, he names a police chief inspector who directed the interrogation.

On the same day his lawyer, again to effect, required an (Continued on page 11)

